

Message Text

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71

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03

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INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT CAIRO

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

DIA WASHDC

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USINFO FOR IOP/M, IPS, IBS, INE

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SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION 30/74 PRESS REVIEW FEB 14

SUMMARY: MEDIA IS STILL OCCUPIED WITH UNRESOLVED
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PROSPECTIVE COALITION
PARTNERS. COMMENTATORS, EXASPERATED WITH
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RELIGIOUS PARTY'S RIGIDITY; READDRESS THEMSELVES

TO ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF LIMITED COALITION GOVERNMENT BUT OFFER NO CLUE AS TO FINAL FORM OF NEXT GOI. NATURE AND TIMING OF SYRIAN RESPONSE TO US PROPOSAL ON POWS AND TROOP SEPARATION REMAINS FOCAL PRESS ITEM. HAARETZ CLAIMS US HAS UNOFFICIALLY TRIED TO FIND OUT ISRAEL'S POSITION ON POSSIBLE NEGATIVE SYRIAN RESPONSE. PRESS AND RADIO HIGHLIGHT WITHOUT COMMENT HUSSEIN'S VIEWS ON ISRAELI-JORDANIAN TROOP SEPARATION. POSTPONEMENT OF ARAB OIL PRODUCERS CONFERENCE IN TRIPOLI RECEIVES HEAVY PLAY. SOME COMMENTATORS INTERPRET POSTPONEMENT AS INDICATION OF ARAB LACK OF READINESS TO LIFT OIL EMBARGO. END SUMMARY.

ISRAELI-SYRIAN POSITIONS ON TROOP SEPARATION

(A) HAARETZ WRITES: " IN THE COURSE OF UNOFFICIAL MEETINGS BETWEEN US ELEMENTS AND SENIOR ISRAELI REPRESENTATIVES, THE AMERICANS TRIED TO FIND OUT WHAT THE ISRAELI POSITION WILL BE IN THE EVENT SYRIA'S RESPONSE TO THE US PROPOSAL OF POWS AND TROOP SEPARATION IS NEGATIVE... THE ISRAELIS EXPLAINED THAT ISRAEL WILL NOT MAKE A FURTHER CONCESSION TO SYRIA... IN WASHINGTON AS WELL AS IN ISRAEL, THE AMERICANS WERE TOLD THAT ISRAEL'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE US PROPOSAL MAKES IT POSSIBLE FOR THE SYRIANS TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS IF THEY ARE REALLY INTERESTED. THE AMERICANS WERE ALSO INFORMED THAT ISRAEL WILL NOT REFUSE TO EXAMINE ADDITIONAL PROPOSALS, ALL ON CONDITION THAT POWS LIST AND ICRC VISITS PRECEDE THE NEGOTIATIONS... US ATTEMPTS (TO FEEL OUT) ISRAEL'S POSITION IS BEING INTERPRETED IN JERUSALEM AS SIGNAL OF INCREASED CONCERN IN WASHINGTON THAT SYRIA'S REPLY IS NEGATIVE..."

(B) DAVAR (ISAAC) CRITICIZES PRIME MINISTER MEIR'S PUBLIC STATEMENT THAT ISRAEL INTENDS TO RETAIN GOLAN HEIGHTS AND PUBLICITY GIVEN TO ESTABLISHMENT OF LARGE CITY IN GOLAN HEIGHTS. ISAAC NOTES: "... (NOTWITHSTANDING) WHETHER THIS WAS INTENDED TO REASSURE THE GOLAN HEIGHTS SETTLERS... OR IS INDICATIVE OF GOI POLICY... WHY WAS IT NECESSARY TO BLOW (THE NEWS) IN SUCH TENSE TIMES AND WHEN EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO FEEL OUT POSSIBILITIES FOR ISRAELI-SYRIAN NEGOTIATIONS...?"

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US-ISRAEL RELATIONS

HAARETZ' LIVNEH IS CRITICAL OF " GOI ADHERENCE TO KISSINGER'S DICTATES," ARGUING: " THE PRESENT GOI IS TAKING ORDERS FROM WASHINGTON WHICH ARE BEING TERMED AS ' ENTREATIES'... WASHINGTON, HOWEVER, IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OUTCOME OF ITS 'ENTREATIES.'" SHOULD THEY LEAD ISRAEL, STEP

BY STEP, TOWARD AN EXTERNAL CRASH AND INTERNAL COLLAPSE,
WASHINGTON CAN WASH ITS HANDS. AS IT IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR
THIS 'INDEPENDENT' STATE." NOTING ISRAEL'S NEED FOR ARMS,
LIVNEH CONTINUES: " THE MEANS BY WHICH TO ENSURE CONTINUOUS
AND MASSIVE US ARMS IS A FIRM POSITION (ISRAELI) AGAINST THE TERRITOR

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IAL AND STRATEGIC DICTATES OF KISSINGER DESPITE THE TENSION...
IF ISRAEL DOES NOT BECOME A REGIONAL POWER AND IDF (IS
NOT CONVERTED) INTO AN INTERNATIONAL ELEMENT... ISRAEL IS IN
FOR A HOLOCAUST."
MOSS

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